

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CU-04 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 ACDA-07 OES-07 ERDA-05 TRSE-00 DHA-02 /078 W
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R 121451Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5380
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O.11652; N/A
TAGS; PGOV, GE
SUBJECT; GDR SCIENTISTS AND CULTURAL FIGURES JOIN
THE ANTI-NEUTRON BOMB CAMPAIGN

REF; BERLIN 6727

1. THE GROWING CAMPAIGN IN THE GDR OF SEMI-OFFICIAL
PROTESTS AGAINST THE NEUTRON BOMB DESCRIBED
REFTEL HAS TAKEN ANOTHER STEP WITH THE PUBLICATION OF
A VERY STRONGLY-WORDED PETITION SIGNED BY THIRTY-SEVEN
PROMINENT EAST GERMAN SCIENTISTS. THE PETITION WITH
THE NAMES OF THE SIGNERS COVERS HALF THE FRONT PAGE
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OF BOTH OF THE MAJOR EAST BERLIN DAILIES NEUES
DEUTSCHLAND AND BERLINER ZEITUNG OF 12 AUGUST. THE LIST
INCLUDES SCIENTISTS FROM MOST OF THE LARGE GDR
UNIVERSITIES AND ACADEMIES, SEVENTEEN MEMBERS OF
THE GDR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, FIVE UNIVERSITY RECTORS,
SEVERAL DIRECTORS OF RESEARCH INSTITUTES, FACULTIES
AND CLINICS AND THE FAMOUS DR. KLAUS FUCHS.

2. THE WORDING OF THE PETITION IS PARTICULARLY HARSH AND GOES WELL BEYOND ANYTHING WHICH HAS APPEARED IN THE GDR PRESS ON THIS SUBJECT TO DATE. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEUTRON BOMB IS DESCRIBED AS BEING PART OF "THE SCANDALOUS HISTORY OF THE MISUSE OF SCIENCE BY IMPERIALISM." THE PETITION CONDEMNS THE "HUMANITY-DESPISING CYNICISM" OF "PRAISING" THE NEUTRON BOMB AS HUMANE BECAUSE IT ONLY PRODUCES "THE BARBARIC ANNIHILATION OF PEOPLE" AND NOT THE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY. THE BOMB IS FURTHER CHARACTERIZED AS "THE IMPERIALISTIC AGGRESSION WEAPON'PAR EXCELLENCE' WHICH STANDS AS AN ATTACK ON THE MOST ELEMENTARY HUMAN RIGHTS, THE RIGHT OF LIFE AND HEALTH, THE RIGHT OF PEACEFUL LIVING OF PEOPLES WITH EACH OTHER AND WHICH UNMASKS THE EXPLANATIONS AND PROTESTATIONS OF THE USA ON PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AS PURE HYPOCRISY AND DECEPTION OF THE PEOPLE."

3. THE SAME EDITIONS ALSO CARRY REPRINTS OF PROTEST LETTERS FROM VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS IN THE ARTS AND SPORTS FIELDS. IN ADDITION, A PROTEST MEETING AS PART OF THE "INTERNATIONAL ACTION WEEK" AGAINST THE NEUTRON BOMB IS SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 12 IN ONE OF THE LARGEST OF EAST BERLIN'S DOWNTOWN FILM THEATERS.

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4. AS DESCRIBED REFTEL, THE INCREASING CAMPAIGN IN THE GDR MEDIA AGAINST THE NEUTRON BOMB IS FOCUSING ON THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY CONTRASTING THE U.S. POSITION ON OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS OF CURRENT AMERICAN AND NATO WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. POLANSKY

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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